



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. : 10/522,489 Confirmation No.: 4485
Applicant : David Williams
Filed : September 15, 2005
TC/A.U. : 2855
Examiner : Harshad R. Patel
Title : Pipe Coupling

Docket No. : MAR10200P00010US
Customer No. : 32116

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed October 27, 2008, reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

In the Action, the Examiner has rejected the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103, with reliance upon U.S. Patent No. 4,602,657, to Anderson et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,449,294, to Rench et al., and U.S. Patent No. 4,879,912 to Suckow. However, as set forth in the pending claims, it is respectfully submitted that applicant's novel pipe coupling construction is neither taught nor suggested by these references, even when combined, and accordingly, the Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

In the Action, the Examiner has asserted that independent claim 1 is anticipated by the Anderson et al. reference. Applicant must respectfully disagree. In particular, it is respectfully maintained that the Anderson et al. reference *does not disclose a pipe coupling flange* having all the features specified in pending claim 1. Rather, the Anderson et al. references discloses a